

**Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1           1.       (currently amended) A system for providing self-installing  
2       software components for network service execution, comprising:  
3           ~~an interface to interoperate with a network service component via a~~  
4       ~~network service on a service host system;~~  
5           ~~a basic communication framework established with the service host~~  
6       ~~system to store network service software for a service and to generate a code~~  
7       ~~bundle comprising the network service software and installation instructions for~~  
8       ~~the network service software; and~~  
9           ~~a requesting system to communicate with the service host system through~~  
10      ~~a basic communication framework, comprising:~~  
11           a checking mechanism to remotely determine availability of the  
12      network service software ~~component~~ on the service host system and to verify  
13      prerequisites against a runtime environment through the service host system;  
14           a helper mechanism to ~~execute a~~ receive the code bundle providing  
15      the network service software ~~component~~ for the service through the service host  
16      system, ~~wherein the code bundle is logically grouped with installation instructions~~  
17      ~~for and to install~~ the network service software ~~component~~; ~~a viral mechanism to~~  
18      ~~provide functionality equivalent to the network service independent of the service~~  
19      ~~host system and implement the network service software component in the code~~  
20      ~~bundle using the installation instructions; and~~  
21           ~~a service mechanism to provide a service of equivalent~~  
22      ~~functionality to the service of the service host system to one or more other~~  
23      ~~requesting systems that is independent of the service host system.~~

1           2.       (currently amended) A system according to Claim 1, further  
2       comprising:

3 a set of standardized method definitions provided through a public  
4 interface defined on the network service software ~~component~~.

1 3. (previously presented) A system according to Claim 2, wherein the  
2 standardized method definitions are selected from the group comprising at least  
3 one of an availability method, environment verification method, code retrieval  
4 method, and an update method.

1 4. (currently amended) A system according to Claim 1, wherein the  
2 network service software ~~component~~ is updated through the service host system.

1 5. (currently amended) A system according to Claim 1, further  
2 comprising:  
3 an installation predicate object defined on the service host system to verify  
4 that the runtime environment satisfies prerequisites necessary to install and  
5 execute the network service software ~~component~~.

1 6. (original) A system according to Claim 5, wherein the installation  
2 predicate object is implemented in at least one of mobile code for execution  
3 within a managed code platform and in platform-specific native code.

1 7. (currently amended) A system according to Claim 1, further  
2 comprising:  
3 a helper object defined on the service host system to locate and obtain  
4 copies of one or more [[of the]] network service software components necessary  
5 to satisfy one or more of the prerequisites.

1 8. (original) A system according to Claim 7, wherein the helper  
2 object is implemented in at least one of mobile code for execution within a  
3 managed code platform and in platform-specific native code.

1 9. (currently amended) A system according to Claim 1, further  
2 comprising:

3           an update object defined on the service host system to identify, retrieve  
4   and install any updates to the network service software ~~component~~.

1           10.   (original) A system according to Claim 9, wherein the update  
2   object is implemented in at least one of mobile code for execution within a  
3   managed code platform and in platform-specific native code.

1           11.   (canceled).

1           12.   (canceled).

1           13.   (original) A system according to Claim 1, wherein the basic  
2   communication framework comprises a Java operating environment.

1           14.   (currently amended) A method for providing self-installing  
2   software components for network service execution, comprising:  
3   ~~interoperating with a network service software component via a network~~  
4   ~~service on a service host system;~~  
5   storing network service software for a service on a service host system and  
6   generating a code bundle comprising the network service software and installation  
7   instructions for the network service software; and

8           establishing a basic communication framework [[with]] between the  
9   service host ~~system; system and a requesting system, comprising:~~  
10           remotely determining by the requesting system, availability of the  
11   network service software ~~component~~ by the requesting system on the service host  
12   system and verifying prerequisites against a runtime environment through the  
13   service host system;

14           ~~executing a receiving on the requesting system, the~~ code bundle  
15   providing the network service software ~~component~~ for the service through the  
16   service host system on the requesting system, wherein the code bundle is logically  
17   grouped with installation instructions for and installing the network service  
18   software ~~component; providing functionality equivalent to the network service~~  
19   independent of the service host system; and implementing the network service

20 ~~software component in the code bundle bundle~~ using the installation instructions;  
21 and  
22 providing by the requesting system, a service of equivalent  
23 functionality to the service of the service host system to one or more other  
24 requesting systems that is independent of the service host system.

1 15. (currently amended) A method according to Claim 14, further  
2 comprising:  
3 specifying a set of standardized method definitions provided through a  
4 public interface defined on the network service software ~~component~~.

1 16. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 15, further  
2 comprising:  
3 defining the standardized method definitions selected from the group  
4 comprising at least one of an availability method, environment verification  
5 method, code retrieval method, and an update method.

1 17. (currently amended) A method according to Claim 14, further  
2 comprising:  
3 updating the network service software ~~component~~ through the service host  
4 system.

1 18. (currently amended) A method according to Claim 14, further  
2 comprising:  
3 defining an installation predicate object on the service host system to  
4 verify that the runtime environment satisfies the prerequisites necessary to install  
5 and execute the network service software ~~component~~.

1 19. (original) A method according to Claim 18, wherein the  
2 installation predicate object is implemented in at least one of mobile code for  
3 execution within a managed code platform and in platform-specific native code.

1           20.     (currently amended) A method according to Claim 14, further  
2 comprising:  
3           defining a helper object on the service host system to locate and obtain  
4 copies of one or more [[of the]] network service software components necessary  
5 to satisfy one or more of the prerequisites.

1           21.     (original) A method according to Claim 20, wherein the helper  
2 object is implemented in at least one of mobile code for execution within a  
3 managed code platform and in platform-specific native code.

1           22.     (currently amended) A method according to Claim 14, further  
2 comprising:  
3           defining an update object on the service host system to identify, retrieve  
4 and install any updates to the network service software ~~component~~.

1           23.     (original) A method according to Claim 22, wherein the update  
2 object is implemented in at least one of mobile code for execution within a  
3 managed code platform and in platform-specific native code.

1           24.     (canceled).

1           25.     (canceled).

1           26.     (original) A method according to Claim 14, wherein the basic  
2 communication framework comprises a Java operating environment.

1           27.     (original) A computer-readable storage medium holding code for  
2 performing the method according to Claim 14.

1           28.     (currently amended) An apparatus for providing self-installing  
2 software components for network service execution, comprising:  
3           ~~means for interoperating with a network service software component via a~~  
4 ~~network service on a service host system;~~

5        means for storing network service software for a service on a service host  
6        system and for generating a code bundle comprising the network service software  
7        and installation instructions for the network service software; and

8        means for establishing a basic communication framework [[with]]  
9        between the service host system; system and a requesting system, comprising:

10        means for remotely determining by the requesting system,  
11        availability of the network service software ~~component~~ on the service host system  
12        and for verifying prerequisites against a runtime environment through the service  
13        host system;

14        means for ~~executing a~~ receiving on the requesting system, the code  
15        bundle providing the network service software ~~component~~ for the service through  
16        the service host system, ~~wherein the code bundle is logically grouped with~~  
17        ~~installation instructions for~~ and for installing the network service software  
18        ~~component; means for providing functionality equivalent to the network service~~  
19        ~~independent of the service host system; and means for implementing the network~~  
20        ~~service software component in the code bundle bundle~~ using the installation  
21        instructions; and

22        means for providing by the requesting system, a service of  
23        equivalent functionality to the service of the service host system to one or more  
24        other requesting systems that is independent of the service host system.